

# Module 20 – Opening Strong 2♦, 2♥ and 2♠ Bids

1. Strong 2 of a Suit Openers
2. Responses to Strong 2's
3. Playing 6 Hands

**Player 1: You must be the worst bridge-player in the world**

*Partner: I doubt that, it would be too much of a coincidence*

**K**keep  
**I**t  
**S**imple  
**S**tupid



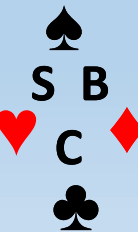
*This week's Paddy's Pearl*





## Strong 2 Opening Suit Bids (excluding 2♣)

1. These are **NATURAL** strong bids which have length in the suit bid
2. There is no exact point count, though typically they will have **>16HCPs BUT** more importantly
  - They have 8 top playing tricks in the suit bid with virtually all the honours
  - **OR** 8 top playing tricks(including top honours) in two suits but with >19HCPs
3. These hands *do not guarantee game* **BUT** are *forcing for one round*, so Responder **MUST BID**





## Strong 2 Opening Suit Bids (excluding 2♣)

1. Since the BID is FORCING FOR 1 ROUND, Responder must bid even with 0 HCPs
2. With few HCPs we use what is called a WAITING or RELAY BID i.e. Next suit up e.g. 2♥ over 2♦, 2♠ over 2♥ and 2NT over 2♠
3. Bidding a new suit (other than relay suit) promises at least a 5-card suit AND at least 1.5 Quick Tricks (A = 1QT and K=0.5QT)





# Responding to a Strong 2 Suit Opener

Opening Bid	Bid
<b>2♦, 2♥ or 2♠</b>  Points required for: Game            25+HCPs Small Slam    33+HCPs Grand Slam    37+HCPs	Next Suit up (Relay Bid) denies 1.5 Quick Tricks(QT) A = 1QT and K = 0.5QT 2♥ over 2♦        } <1.5QT 2♠ over 2♥        } even with 2NT over 2♠      } 0 HCP
	Game Bid is shut out e.g. 4♥ over 2♥ Opener Support at Next level shows slam interest e.g 3♥ over 2♥
	Responding with a new suit requires: - A 5+ card suit and at least 1.5 QT (Quick Tricks). You must have 2 of the top 3 honours in the suit bid





# Examples of bidding after Acol 2 Suit Opener

a)

♠ 5  
♥ A4  
♦ AKQJ96  
♣ KQ72

A nice hand with a solid suit  
8 Playing Tricks in diamonds  
Open 2♦

b)

♠ KQ4  
♥ AKQ863  
♦ A52  
♣ 8

A strong suit and good controls  
8 Playing Tricks in hearts  
Bid 2♥

c)

♠ AKQ53  
♥ 4  
♦ AK872  
♣ A8

A very strong 2 suiter with  
8 Playing Tricks  
Open 2♠ and rebid 3♦





# Examples of bidding after Acol 2 Suit Opener (cont.)

d)

♠ 9  
♥ AKQJ9765  
♦ 943  
♣ 3

8 Playing Tricks in Hearts  
BUT **NOT** a 2♥ Opener !  
Limited Values (HCPs)  
Limited defence  
**Open 4♥** (Pre-empt)

e)

♠ AQ53  
♥ 4  
♦ AK872  
♣ AQ1J

20 HCPs but lacks the suit quality for  
a 2 opener.  
**Open 1♦** - If everyone passes you  
haven't missed game





# Responding to an Acol 2 Opening Bid

a)

♠ KQ1053  
♥ A654  
♦ 72  
♣ 982

Partner opens 2♦  
Respond 2♠, a positive response, with 8HCP and 1.5QT.

b)

♠ A54  
♥ K973  
♦ K1086  
♣ 72

Partner bids 2♠.  
Respond 3♠, potential slam interest;  
3 card support enough  
Too good for 4♠

c)

♠ Q7542  
♥ J76  
♦ 984  
♣ 32

Partner bids 2♥  
Respond 2♠, relay bid  
Says nothing about ♠

d)

♠ J932  
♥ 1074  
♦ 86  
♣ QJ54

Partner opens 2♠  
Respond 4♠  
Sign-off, 4 card support  
No slam interests

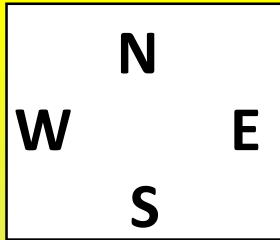




# Bidding Auctions with Acol 2 Bids

a)

♠ AKQ107  
♥ AKQ53  
♦ A6  
♣ 4



♠ 5  
♥ 9642  
♦ Q97  
♣ QJ653

**West**

2♠  
3♥

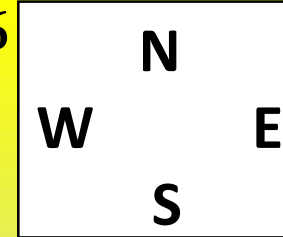
**East**

2NT (Relay)  
4♥

West because of the Relay bid can bid  
The second suit. East much prefers ♥'s  
And has enough support to bid game

b)

♠ AKQ1096  
♥ AJ5  
♦ A65  
♣ 4



♠ J5  
♥ 10932  
♦ QJ6  
♣ 8653

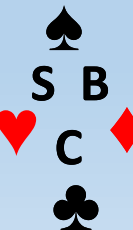
**West**

2♠  
3♠

**East**

2NT (Relay)  
4♠

West shows a single suited Acol 2 bid after the  
relay, E bids game as he could have had less  
And partner's opening suggests he doesn't need  
Much. Pass with 0-3HCPs and only 1 spade





# Module 19 – Opening 2NT Bids

## *6 Playing Hands*

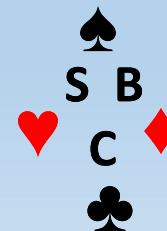
**Player 1: You must be the worst bridge-player in the world**

***Partner: I doubt that, it would be too much of a coincidence***



*This week's Paddy's Pearl*

**K**Keep  
**I**t  
**S**imple  
**S**tupid





Dealer: North  
 Vulnerability:

10pts

♠ KJ852

♥ 10

♦ Q102

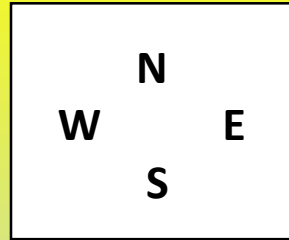
♣ A842

♠ 10643

♥ J7

♦ A8543

♣ J10



♠ 9

♥ AKQ98432

♦ 7

♣ Q53

11pts

♠ AQ7

♥ 65

♦ KJ96

13pts

♣ K976

5pts

**Bidding:** Although E has 8 QTs in hearts this is not a 2♥ opener, it has too few HCPs and no defensive tricks so best to make a pre-emptive bid of 4♥

**Lead:** No easy lead. Suggest possibly ♠A and hold your breath. The 4♥ opener suggests little outside hearts so partner either has ♠K or dummy. If dummy has it then he/she will make the trick anyway.

**Play:** Declarer should make 10 tricks losing only ♠A and ♣AK

Bidding

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
p	4♥	All Pass	

Deal 20.1





Dealer: East

Vulnerability:

7pts

♠ KQ7

♥ 7432

♦ 10872

♣ Q9

♠ 10832

♥ J8

♦ 954

♣ AJ74

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ AJ64

♥ 10

♦ K63

♣ 106532

♠ 95

♥ AKQ965

♦ AQJ 19pts

♣ K8

8pts

**Bidding:** S has at least an 8 trick playing trick hand

With 4 card heart support and >3HCP N bids game.

This also shows no slam interest.

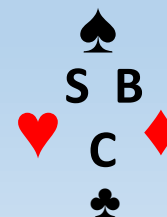
**Lead:** No great lead to make, 2♠ shows lowest from an honour (10 is a “poor” honour but best that can be provided)

**Play:** Easy contract with only 2 Aces to lose.  
Should make 11 tricks

Bidding

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
4♥	p All Pass	2♥	p

Deal 20.2



6pts



Dealer: South  
 Vulnerability:

6pts

♠ 8742

♥ Q107

♦ 10

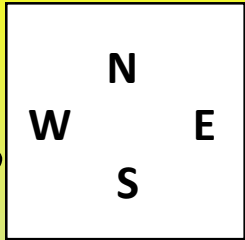
♣ A10873

♠ A65

♥ K2

♦ AKQJ863

♣ 2



♠ QJ9

♥ A9543

♦ 94

♣ QJ4

10pts

♠ K103

♥ J86

♦ 752

♣ K965

7pts

Bidding: W with 8QT opens 2♦

E bids a relay bid of 2♥ with <1.5QT

After opener showing a single suited diamond suit, E with stops in all other suits bids 3NT believing it better than 5♦

NB. A solid minor will still make all it's tricks in NT

Lead: ♣7, (4<sup>th</sup> highest against NT.)

Play: E/W should make 11 tricks. Losing only ♣AK

Bidding

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
p	2♥	p	2♦
p	3NT	All Pass	3♦

Deal 20.3





Dealer: West

Vulnerability:

19pts

♠ AKQJ54

♥ KQ3

♦ A85

♣ 9

♠ 87

♥ A1065

♦ 973

♣ KQ62

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 102

♥ J4

♦ QJ1062

♣ A753

♠ 963

♥ 9872

♦ K4

♣ J1084

4pts

**Bidding:** Opener's 3♠ rebid shows a strong single suited opener and with >3HCP and a 3 card spade suit and potential ruffing value in ♦'s S feels it is worth the risk of bidding 4♠

**Lead:** ♦Q, top of an honour sequence

**Play:** N/S should make 11 tricks losing only 2 Aces.

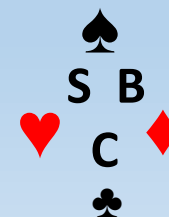
9pts

8pts

Bidding

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
		2	p
2♠	p	2NT	p
3♠	p	4♠	All Pass

Deal 20.4





Dealer: North

Vulnerability:

19pts

♠ 9

♥ AKQ973

♦ J75

♣ AKQ

♠ KJ1084

♥ 854

♦ Q8

♣ J87

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 653

♥ J6

♦ AK963

♣ 1093

♠ AQ72

♥ 102

♦ 1052

♣ 6542

6pts

8pts

**Bidding:** N opens 2♥ with probably 9 Quick/Playing tricks.

S bids a relay bid since ≤1.5QT (says nothing about spades)

N's 3♥ shows a single suited hand and N with above iminimum and 1QT (♠A) and 2 hearts bids 4♥

**Lead:** ♦A

**Play:** While E/W makes the first 3 tricks ♦AK and a ruff, N/S has no trouble making the next 10 tricks

7pts

Bidding

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
2♥	p	2♠	p
3♥	p	4♥	All Pass

Deal 20.5

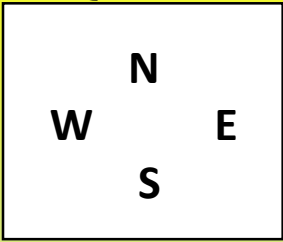




Dealer: North  
Vulnerability:

**11pts**  
 ♠ 9  
 ♥ AKQ98432  
 ♦ 7  
 ♣ Q53

**10pts**  
 ♠ KJ852  
 ♥ 10  
 ♦ Q102  
 ♣ A842



**13pts**  
 ♠ AQ7  
 ♥ 65  
 ♦ KJ96  
 ♣ K976

♠ 10643  
 ♥ J7 **5pts**  
 ♦ A8543  
 ♣ J10

**Bidding:** Same hand as 20.1 but hands moved anti-clockwise

E can now open 1NT and W bid 2♠

Will N still bid 4♥ or could E/W even try 4♠?

This shows how hands in different positions can change competitive bidding options

I presume that N/S will finish in 4♥

**Lead:** ♠A after partner's spade bid

**Play:** Declarer should make 10 tricks losing only ♠A and ♣AK

If N/S “guess” or try to sacrifice in 4♠ they may find they can make 10 tricks in spades losing only ♥A, ♦A and a ♣, unless N finds a singleton diamond lead or ♥A and then the singleton diamond.

<u>Bidding</u>			
<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
	1NT	p	2♠
4♥	All Pass		

**NB.** *In distributional hands it is possible for both partnerships to make game*



Deal 20.6